

Applicants: Mary Cismowski and Emir Duzic
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Remarks

Claims 1-78 were pending in the subject application. By this amendment, applicants have canceled claims 1-29 and 42-51 and amended claims 30, 32, 33, 62-65, 68-71, 74, 76 and 77. Consequently, claims 30-41 and 52-78 are currently pending.

The subject application claims the benefit of U.S. Application No. 09/709,103, filed November 8, 2000. U.S. Application No. 09/709,103 was allowed on November 26, 2003 and the issue fee was paid on February 25, 2004. However, the patent has not yet issued. Consequently, U.S. Application No. 09/709,103 is copending with this continuation and this continuation is being timely filed.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the following references, which are listed on Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Thus, this Information Disclosure Statement should be entered and considered.

The above-identified application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of Serial No. 09/709,103, filed November 8, 2000. Copies of the documents listed below have previously been submitted to, or cited by the U.S. Patent Office in connection with Serial No. 09/709,103. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents listed below are not provided. However, for the Examiner's convenience, Applicants attach hereto copies

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of the allowed claims of U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/439,410 and 09/709,103 (items 119 and 120) as **Exhibits 1-2.**

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,613,572, issued September 23, 1986, MacKay et al.;
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,736,866, issued April 12, 1988, Leder et al.;
3. U.S. Patent No. 4,870,009, issued September 26, 1989, Evans et al.;
4. U.S. Patent No. 4,873,191, issued October 10, 1989, Wagner et al.;
5. U.S. Patent No. 4,873,316, issued October 10, 1989, Meade et al.;
6. U.S. Patent No. 4,987,071, issued January 22, 1991, Cech et al.;
7. U.S. Patent No. 5,096,815, issued March 17, 1992, Ladner et al.;
8. U.S. Patent No. 5,116,742, issued May 26, 1992, Cech et al.;
9. U.S. Patent No. 5,223,409, issued June 29, 1993, Ladner et al.;
10. U.S. Patents 5,270,181, issued December 14, 1993, McCoy et al.;

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11. U.S. Patent No. 5,283,317, issued February 1, 1994, Saifer et al.;
12. U.S. Patent No. 5,482,835, issued January 9, 1996, King et al.;
13. PCT International Publication No. WO 90/11354, published October 4, 1990;
14. PCT International Publication No. WO 91/01140, published February 7, 1991;
15. PCT International Publication No. WO 93/04169, published March 4, 1993;
16. PCT International Publication No. WO 94/10300, published May 11, 1994;
17. PCT International Publication No. WO 94/13802, published June 23, 1994;
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19. PCT International Publication No. WO 99/18211, published April 15, 1999;
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119. Cismowski et al., Serial No. 09/439,410, filed November 11, 1999; (**Exhibit 1 - allowed claims only**) and
120. Cismowski et al., Serial No. 09/709,103, filed November 8, 2000 (**Exhibit 2 - allowed claims only**).

Applicants request that the Examiner review the references and make them of record in the subject application.

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Sequence Listing with

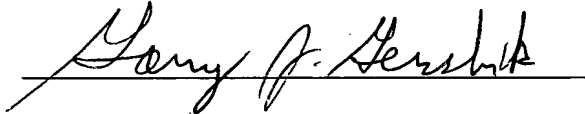
Request for Transfer of Computer Readable Form.

The computer readable form of the Sequence Listing in this application is identical with the computer readable form submitted in the parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/709,103, filed November 8, 2000. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.821(e), please use the computer readable form submitted on March 18, 2002 in the 09/709,103 application as the computer readable form for the instant application. It is understood that the Patent and Trademark Office will make the necessary changes in the application number and filing date for the computer readable form that will be used for the instant application. A paper copy of the Sequence Listing, which is identical to the computer readable form submitted on March 18, 2002, is included herewith as **Exhibit B.**

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No fee, other than the enclosed filing fee, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gary J. Gershik", is written over a horizontal line.

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